atelier du noir &
solitario no fansub
presents

Hammurabi Court Pt. 1
By Kaitani Shinabu

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Credit page done by Yuuken / original concept by Eimis

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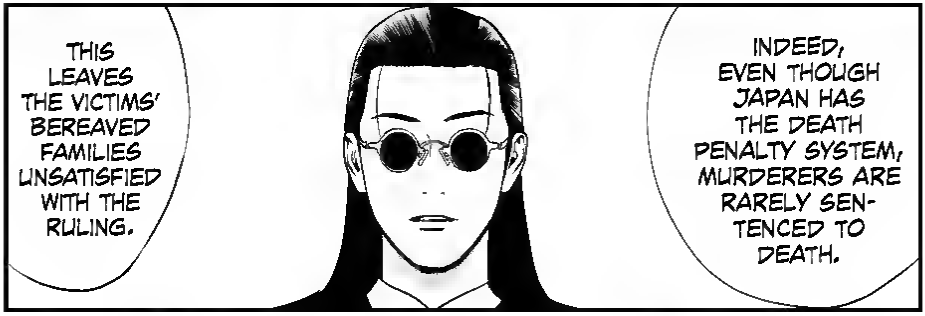
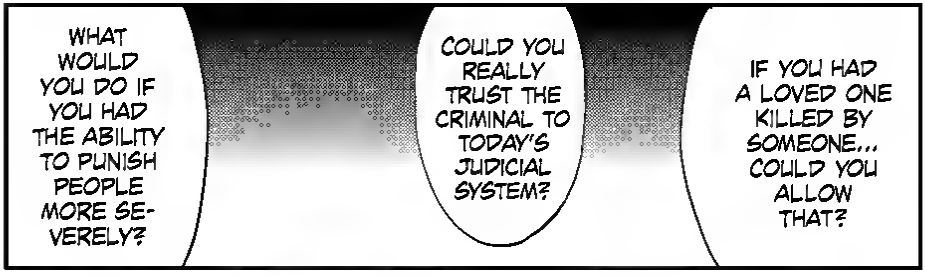
AFTER ALL, MODERN JUSTICE IS A KILLER...


THIS LEAVES THE VICTIMS' BEREAVED FAMILIES UNSATISFIED WITH THE RULING.
INDEED, EVEN THOUGH JAPAN HAS THE DEATH PENALTY SYSTEM, MURDERERS ARE RARELY SENTENCED TO DEATH.


WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU HAD THE ABILITY TO PUNISH PEOPLE MORE SEVERELY?
COULD YOU REALLY TRUST THE CRIMINAL TO TODAY'S JUDICIAL SYSTEM?
IF YOU HAD A LOVED ONE KILLED BY SOMEONE... COULD YOU ALLOW THAT?

エンマ

前編

Enma Ohmuraki count

大王

人の闇を裁く！

AUTHOR OF "MUTEKI NO HITO" KAITANI SHINOBU'S FIRST APPEARANCE IN EVENING MAGAZINE. THE FIRST 30 PAGES OF HIS EXPLOSIVE ONE-SHOT DEBUT.

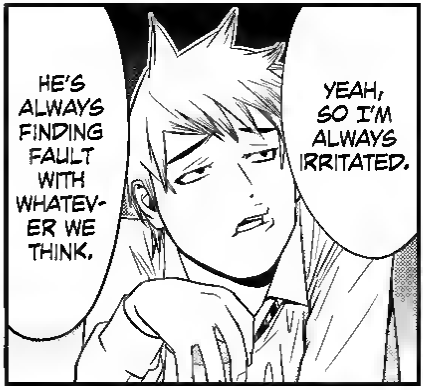
エンマ

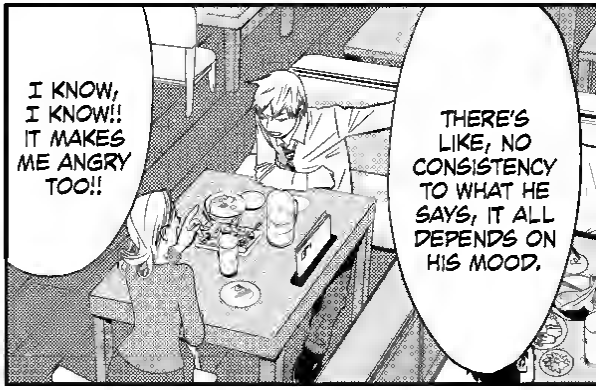
Enmmaeh court COMPLETE EPISODE

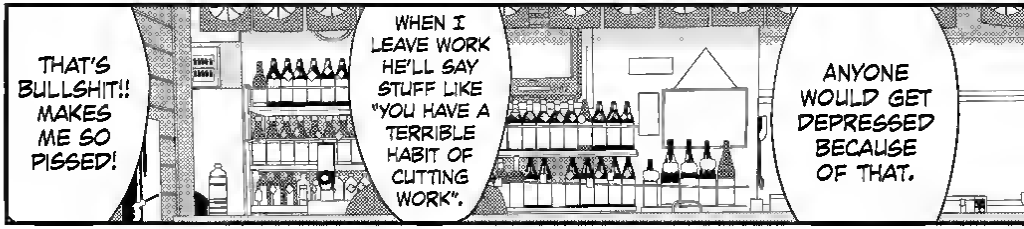
Presented by Shinobu Kaitani 甲斐谷忍

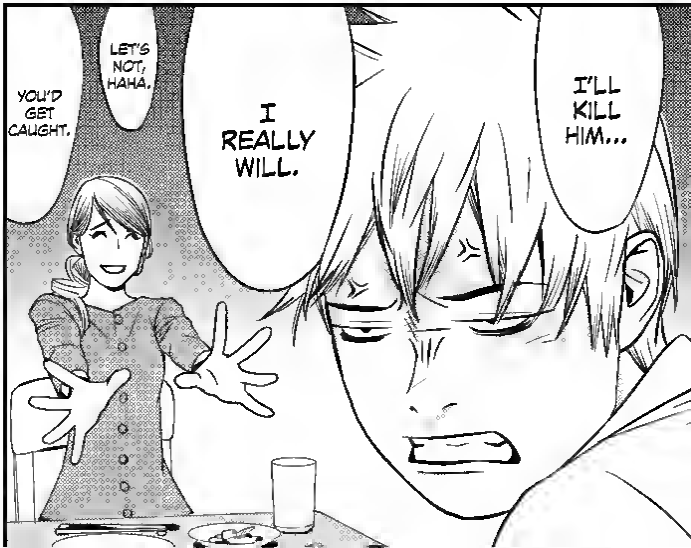
This courtroom judges the evils of man!

*T/N: BAR SIGN SAYS "TAIKO'S IZAKAYA RESTAURANT".

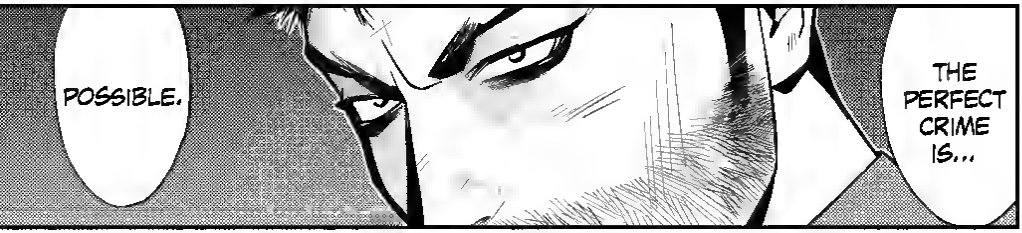





THAT'S BULLSHIT!! MAKES ME SO PISSED!
WHEN I LEAVE WORK HE'LL SAY STUFF LIKE "YOU HAVE A TERRIBLE HABIT OF CUTTING WORK".
ANYONE WOULD GET DEPRESSED BECAUSE OF THAT.

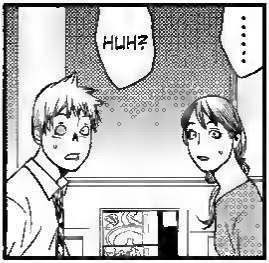


IF THE BODY CAN'T BE FOUND WHEN YOU KILL SOMEONE...
IT TURNS INTO AN AVERAGE MISSING PERSONS CASE.
FRIED 350
SALAD 500
SALAD 380
GRILLED RIBS 420
FRIED 180
GIZZARD


THE PERFECT CRIME IS...
POSSIBLE.

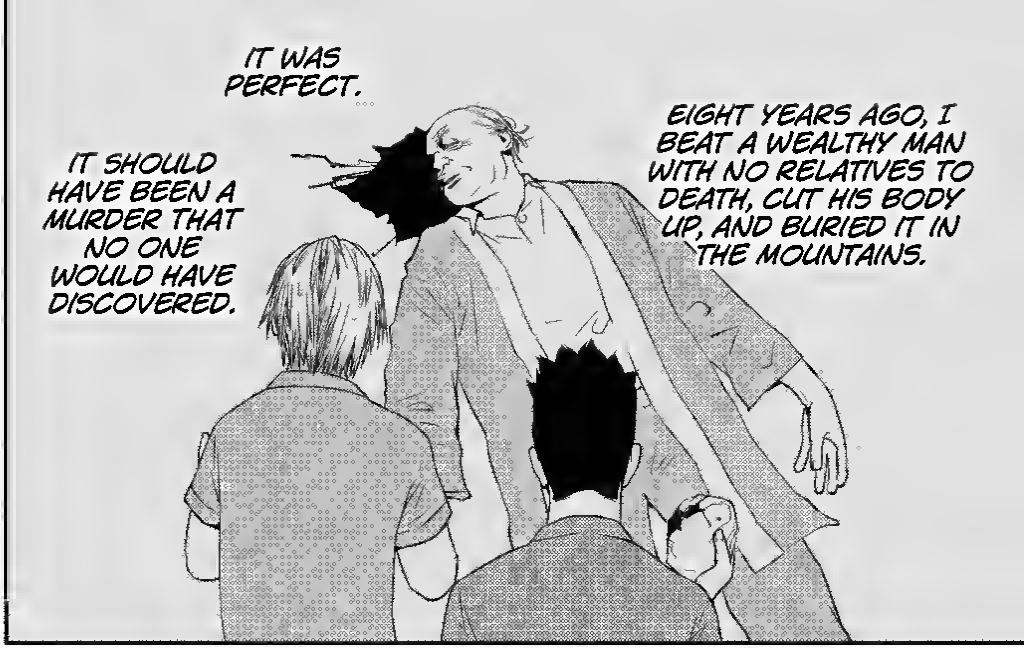
.....
WHO IS HE...?

IF YOU STILL FEEL LIKE IT...
HE HE HE
later
I CAN TEACH YOU.
HE HE HE

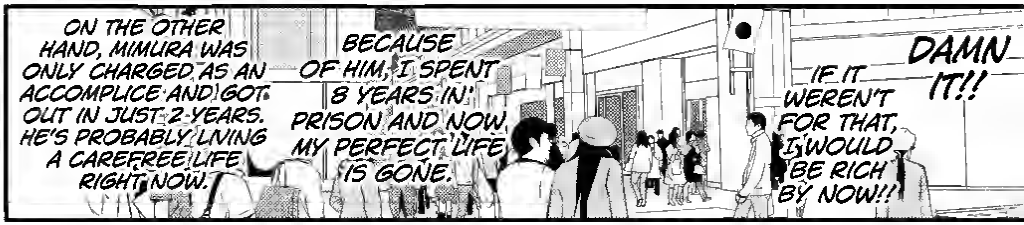

.....
HUH?

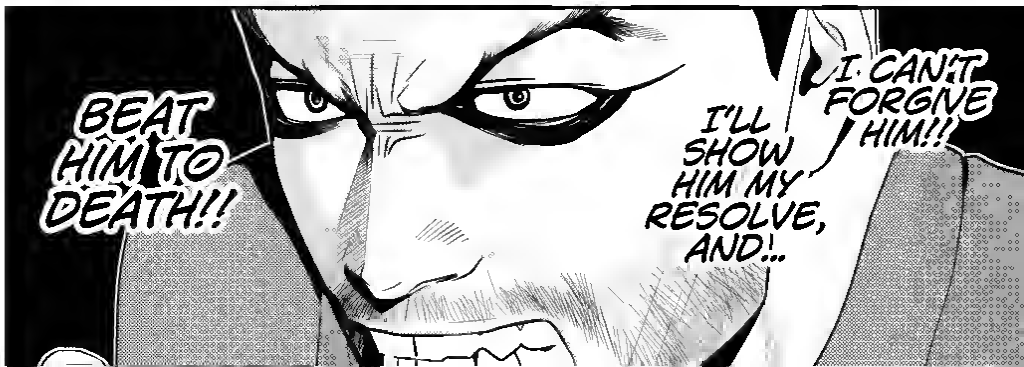
AND THE TRUTH IS...
THAT'S BECAUSE I'VE ACTUALLY SUCCEEDED IN DOING IT.

KILLING SOMEONE WITHOUT GETTING CAUGHT.
THAT'S RIGHT, IT'S PRETTY EASY FOR ME.

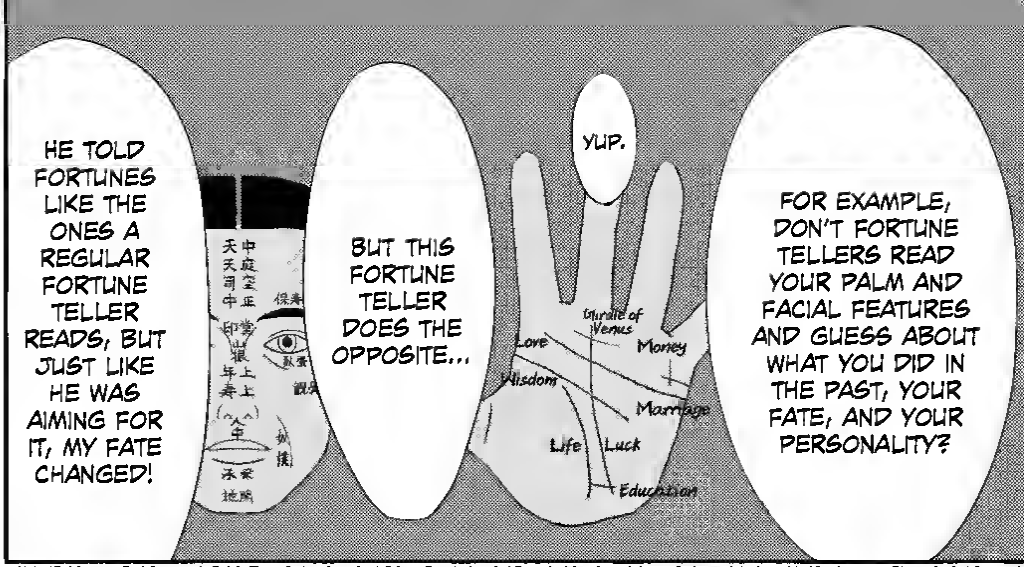

IT WAS PERFECT...
IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN A MURDER THAT NO ONE WOULD HAVE DISCOVERED.
EIGHT YEARS AGO, I BEAT A WEALTHY MAN WITH NO RELATIVES TO DEATH, CUT HIS BODY UP, AND BURIED IT IN THE MOUNTAINS.

THE BODY IS BURIED IN THE MOUNTAINS BETWEEN GUNMA AND NAGANO PREFECTURE.
HASEGAWA AND I KILLED HIM.
IF MY ACCOMPLICE MIMURA WOULD HAVE STAYED SILENT...


ON THE OTHER HAND, MIMURA WAS ONLY CHARGED AS AN ACCOMPLICE AND GOT OUT IN JUST 2 YEARS. HE'S PROBABLY LIVING A CAREFREE LIFE RIGHT NOW.
BECAUSE OF HIM, I SPENT 8 YEARS IN PRISON AND NOW MY PERFECT LIFE IS GONE.
IF IT WEREN'T FOR THAT, I WOULD BE RICH BY NOW!!
DAMN IT!!


BEAT HIM TO DEATH!!
I'LL SHOW HIM MY RESOLVE, AND...
I CAN'T FORGIVE HIM!!

THUD
YOU AREN'T HERE, EITHER.
DAMN!
KICK
YOU DON'T KNOW, DO YOU?
MIMU-RA?
STILL CAN'T FIND HIM!!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR OVER A MONTH!!
SHIT!!
HOW THE HELL DO I FIND OUT WHERE HE IS!?
JUST BY DOING WHAT THAT FORTUNE TELLER SAID, I WAS ABLE TO GO OUT WITH THE SENPAI I LIKED! ♡
REALLY!? THAT'S AWE-SOME! ♡
A FORTUNE TELLER... DO HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS REALLY FALL FOR STUFF LIKE THAT?
WHAAAT, A FOR-TUNE TELLER!?
THAT'S RIGHT!! HE'S LIKE A GOD!!
HUH?
HE CAN CHANGE...
FATE ITSELF!!
EH!! FOR REAL?!
CHANGING FATE?
FORTUNE TELLERS USUALLY JUST TELL YOU ABOUT THE FUTURE, THOUGH.
BUT THIS ONE IS COM-PLETELY DIFFERENT!!

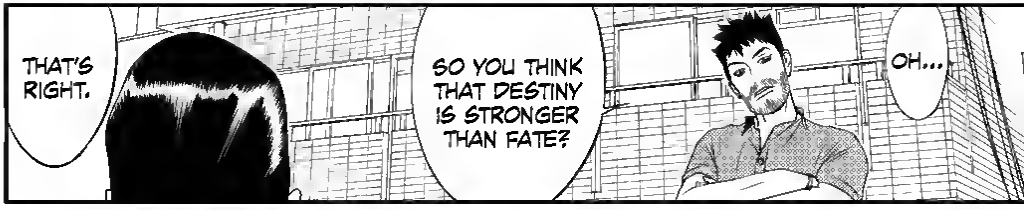

FOR EXAMPLE, DON'T FORTUNE TELLERS READ YOUR PALM AND FACIAL FEATURES AND GUESS ABOUT WHAT YOU DID IN THE PAST, YOUR FATE, AND YOUR PERSONALITY?
YUP.
BUT THIS FORTUNE TELLER DOES THE OPPOSITE...
HE TOLD FORTUNES LIKE THE ONES A REGULAR FORTUNE TELLER READS, BUT JUST LIKE HE WAS AIMING FOR IT, MY FATE CHANGED!
Girdle of Venus
Love
Money
Wisdom
Marriage
Life
Luck
Education

*T/N: THE WRITINGS ON THE FACE ARE RELATED TO ANCIENT CHINESE PHYSIOGNOMY AND HAVE NO SUITABLE ENGLISH EQUIVALENTS. SEE LAST PAGE FOR MORE DETAILS.

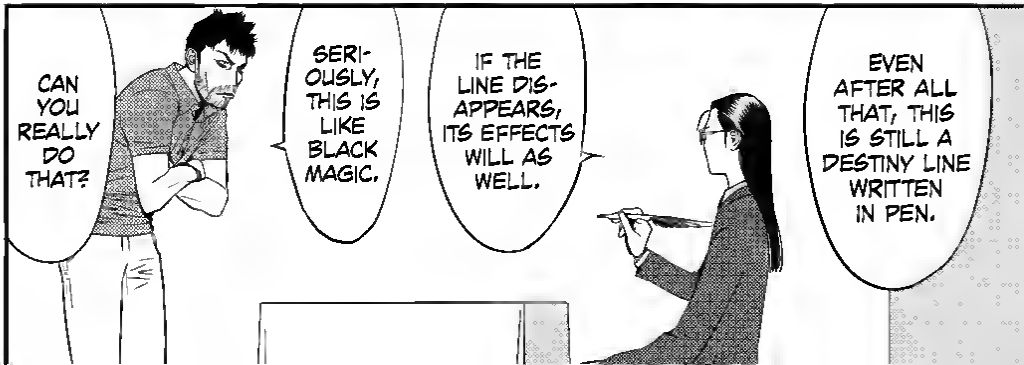
AH, EXCUSE ME, LADIES...
FOR REAL?!
THE NEXT DAY, SENPAI CASUALLY SAT NEXT TO ME AT THE MOVIE THEATER, JUST BY CHANCE!!
HE ALSO DREW LINES ON MY PALM, AND THEN...

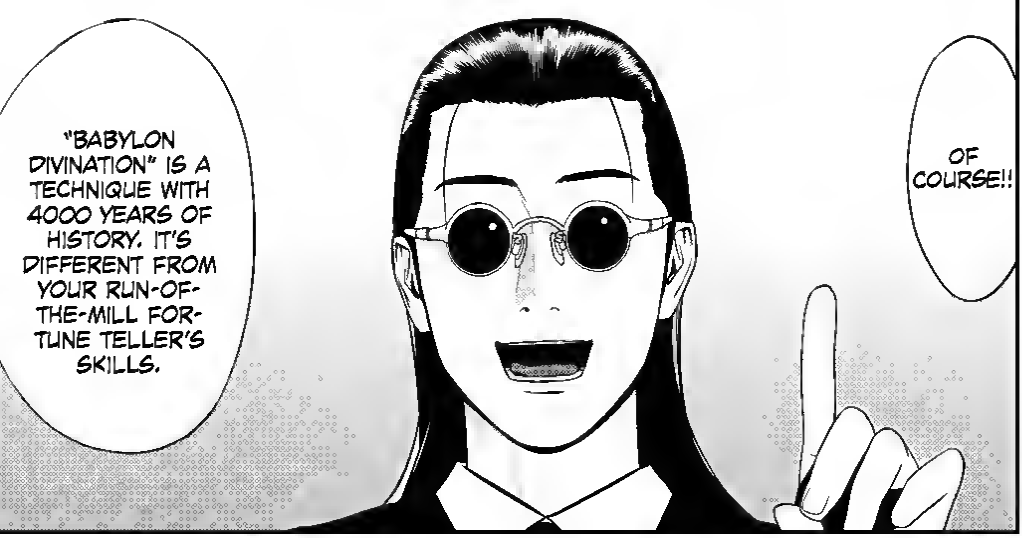
WHA—
FOR SOMEONE WITH YOUR SUCCESS RATE, YOU DON'T REALLY HAVE MANY CUSTOMERS.
snore snore
ZZZ ZZZ
ARE YOU...
THE FORTUNE TELLER THAT CAN CHANGE MY FATE BY DRAWING PALM LINES?
PALM LINES...
WHOOSH
AH!
YOU MEAN "DESTINY LINES"?
DESTINY LINES...?
YEAH.
WELL TO START WITH, HUMANS HAVE BOTH A "DESTINY" AND A "FATE", RIGHT?
"FATE" IS THE FUTURE THAT YOU CAN CHANGE WITH YOUR OWN EFFORT.
ON THE OTHER HAND, "DESTINY" IS THE FUTURE THAT CAN'T BE CHANGED.

SO, YOUR "FATE LINES" ARE CHANGING EVERY DAY. BUT FROM THE DAY YOU'RE BORN UNTIL THE DAY YOU DIE, YOUR "DESTINY LINES" REMAIN UNCHANGED.
THEREFORE, THERE ARE TWO MAJOR TYPES OF PALM READING, ONE CONCERNS ITSELF WITH "FATE LINES" WHERE YOUR FATE IS INSCRIBED.... THE OTHER CONCERNS ITSELF WITH "DESTINY LINES" WHERE YOUR DESTINY IS WRITTEN.

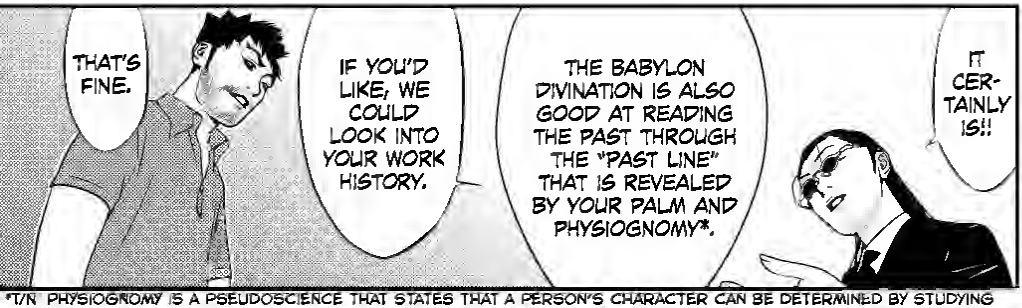

THAT'S RIGHT.
SO YOU THINK THAT DESTINY IS STRONGER THAN FATE?
OH...

I CAN FORCIBLY CHANGE A PERSON'S FUTURE.
THROUGH MY "BABYLON DIVINATION" TECHNIQUE, BY INTENTIONALLY WRITING IN THOSE POWERFUL DESTINY LINES...


CAN YOU REALLY DO THAT?
SERI-OUSLY, THIS IS LIKE BLACK MAGIC.
IF THE LINE DIS-APPEARS, ITS EFFECTS WILL AS WELL.
EVEN AFTER ALL THAT, THIS IS STILL A DESTINY LINE WRITTEN IN PEN.

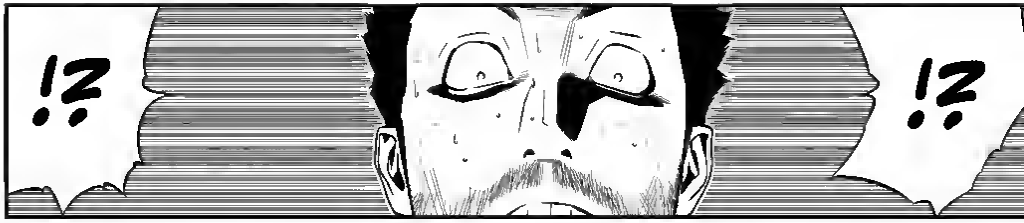

"BABYLON DIVINATION" IS A TECHNIQUE WITH 4000 YEARS OF HISTORY. IT'S DIFFERENT FROM YOUR RUN-OF-THE-MILL FORTUNE TELLER'S SKILLS.
OF COURSE!!

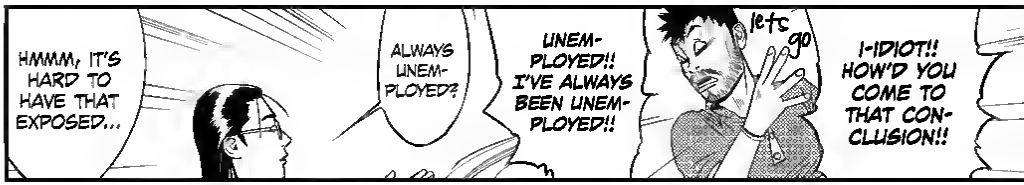
THE POINT IS WHETHER IT'S ACCURATE OR NOT.
UUUUH, I DON'T NEED TO LISTEN TO THAT LONG-ASS STORY.
IT DATES BACK TO THE FIRST BABYLONIAN DYNASTY. SINCE THAT TIME, IT HAS BEEN FEARED DUE TO ITS POWER...


THAT'S FINE.
IF YOU'D LIKE, WE COULD LOOK INTO YOUR WORK HISTORY.
THE BABYLON DIVINATION IS ALSO GOOD AT READING THE PAST THROUGH THE "PAST LINE" THAT IS REVEALED BY YOUR PALM AND PHYSIOGNOMY*.
IT CERTAINLY IS!!

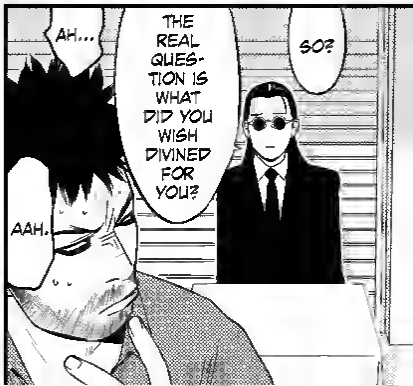
*T/N: PHYSIOGNOMY IS A PSEUDOSCIENCE THAT STATES THAT A PERSON'S CHARACTER CAN BE DETERMINED BY STUDYING THEIR PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS. CHECK THE LAST PAGE FOR MORE DETAILS

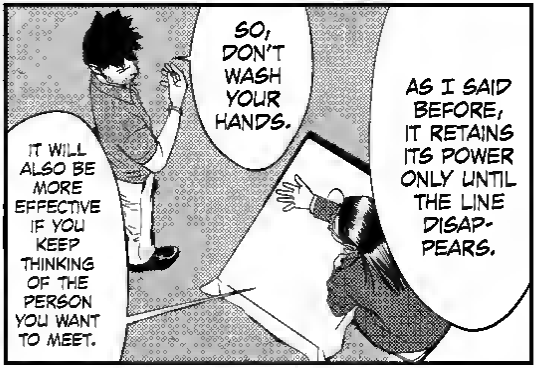
"MUR-
DERER"...
ISN'T
IT?


!?
!?


HMMM, IT'S HARD TO HAVE THAT EXPOSED...
ALWAYS UNEM-PLOYED?
UNEM-PLOYED!! I'VE ALWAYS BEEN UNEM-PLOYED!!
let's go
I-IDIOT!! HOW'D YOU COME TO THAT CON-CLUSION!!

HOLD OUT YOUR RIGHT HAND, PLEASE.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN I CAN DEFINITELY HELP YOU.
I REALLY WANT TO MEET HIM, BUT I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE HE IS.
A FRIEND., AN OLD FRIEND..


AH...
THE REAL QUES-TION IS WHAT DID YOU WISH DIVINED FOR YOU?
SO?
AAH.

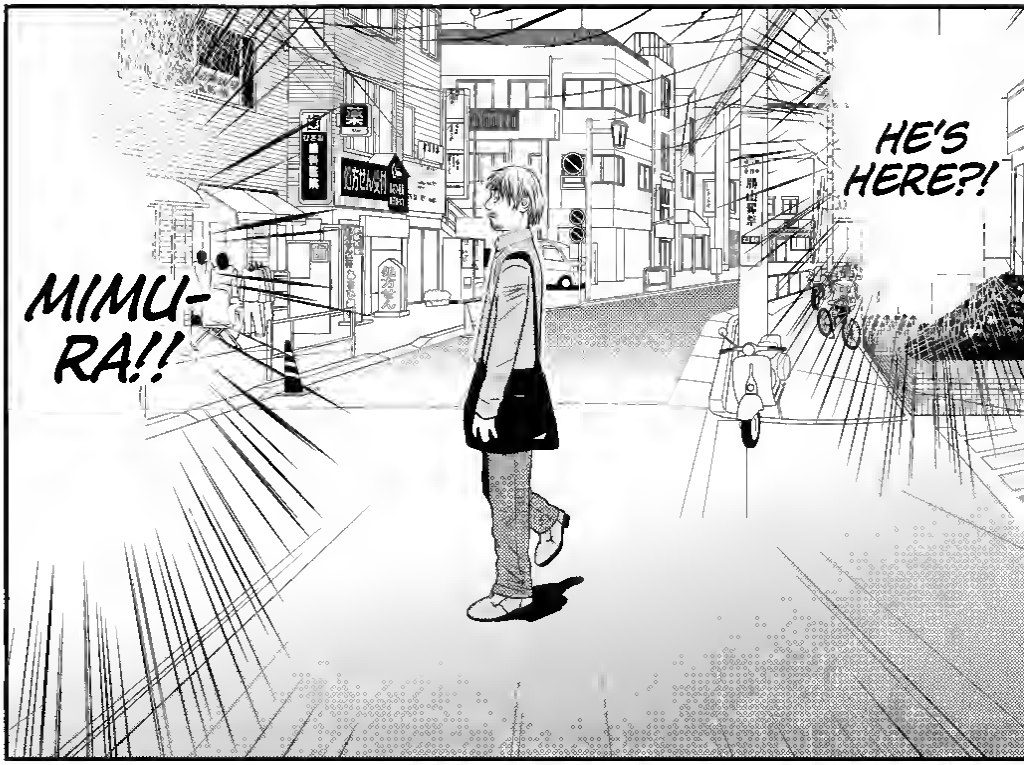

SO, DON'T WASH YOUR HANDS.
AS I SAID BEFORE, IT RETAINS ITS POWER ONLY UNTIL THE LINE DISAPPEARS.
IT WILL ALSO BE MORE EFFECTIVE IF YOU KEEP THINKING OF THE PERSON YOU WANT TO MEET.

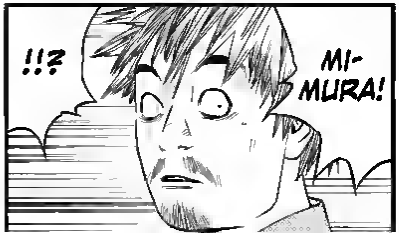
IF I'M ABLE TO SAFELY MEET HIM, I'LL PAY YOU 1 MILLION YEN*.
AAAAH, WELL, YOU COULDN'T GUESS MY OCCUPATION CORRECTLY SO I DON'T REALLY TRUST YOU.

*T/N: ABOUT $8800.

HE WAS TELLING ME TO THINK ABOUT MEETING HIM...
...WAIT A MINUTE.
IS THIS DESTINY LINE THING BOGUS... SHIT!!
I HAVEN'T FOUND HIM!!
IT'S BEEN 6 HOURS SINCE THEN, BUT...

HUH?
BEAT YOU CUT YOU STAB YOU KILL YOU DEAD DEAD DEAD!!
I'M DEFINITELY GOING TO BEAT YOU TO DEATH!!
MIMURAAA...


MIMU-RA!!
HE'S HERE?!

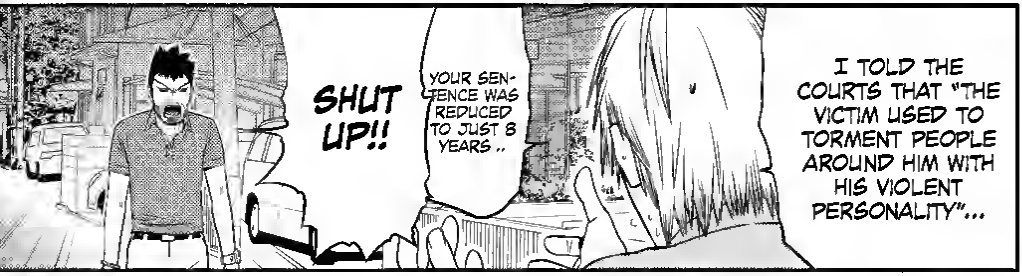

!!?
MI-MURA!

MIMURA!
RUN RUN
THAT DESTINY LINE IS AMAZING!!

テナント募集
YOU'RE OUT OF PRISON?
HASE-GAWA... YOU...
pant pant pant pant pant pant

SURELY YOU DON'T HOLD A GRUDGE AGAINST ME...?
THANKS TO...

THANKS TO YOU, I'VE HAD PLENTY OF PRISON LIVING.
pant pant pant pant
pant
OH...


SHUT UP!!
YOUR SENTENCE WAS REDUCED TO JUST 8 YEARS..
I TOLD THE COURTS THAT "THE VICTIM USED TO TORMENT PEOPLE AROUND HIM WITH HIS VIOLENT PERSONALITY"...

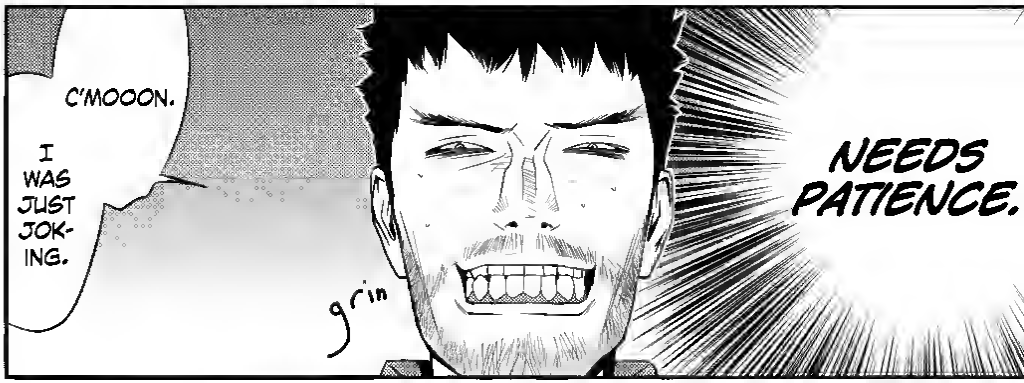
BECAUSE OF YOU, MY LIFE IS...
IT'S YOUR FAULT...

NOT IMPOS-SIBLE!!
IMPOSSIBLE. THE POLICE WERE CONDUCTING A THOROUGH INVESTIGA-TION...

WE WOULD HAVE NEVER BEEN FOUND OUT!
IF YOU HADN'T CON-FESSED...

WHOA, THE TIME TO KILL HIM...
ISN'T NOW!!

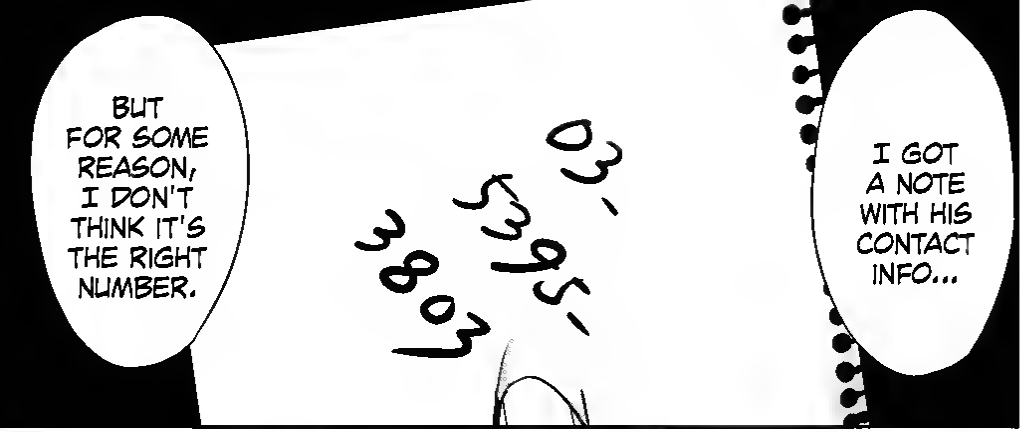
IF I KILL HIM IN THE CITY, I'LL BE FOUND OUT.
clench
THIS... THIS RIGHT HERE...

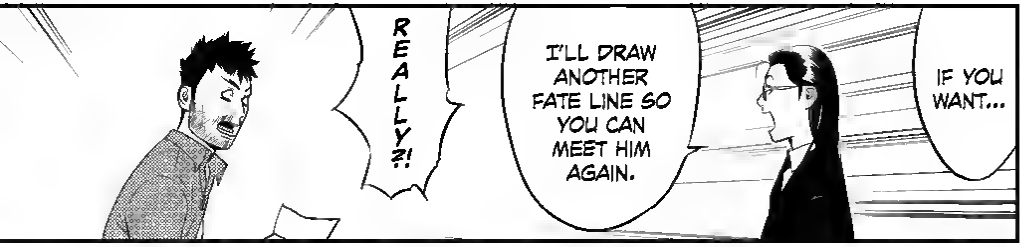

NEEDS PATIENCE.
grin
C'MOOON. I WAS JUST JOK-ING.

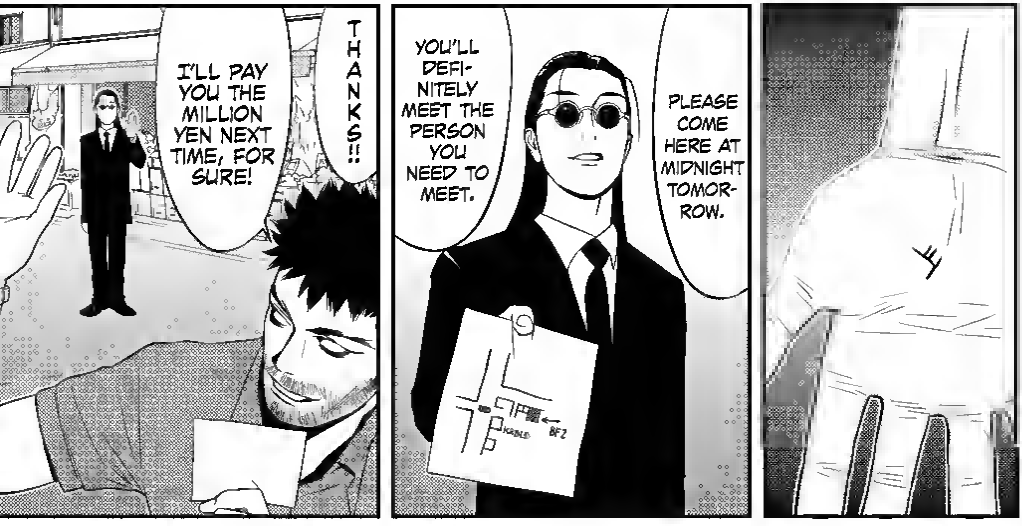
EH?
IDIOT, WHY WOULD I HOLD A GRUDGE?
BECAUSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY, I ONLY SERVED 8 YEARS. I'M GRATEFUL.

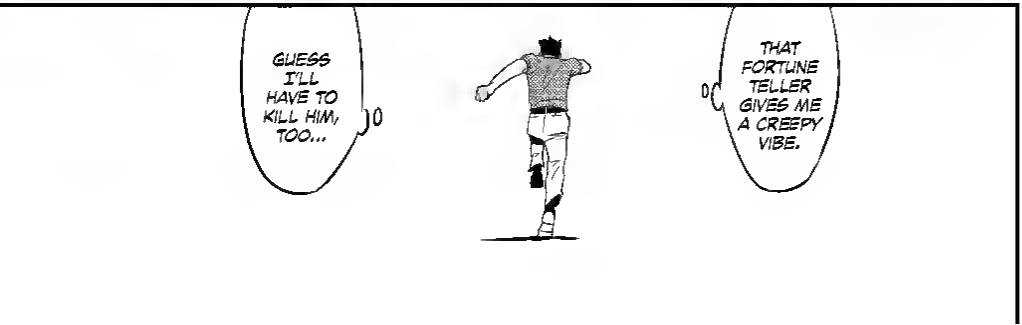
OH, GOOD.
YOU UNDERSTAND THAT I DESPERATELY TRIED TO MAKE YOUR SENTENCE LIGHTER.
SURE, YOU TRIED DESPERATELY...
IF NOT FOR YOUR CONFESSION, I WOULD'VE BEEN RICH BY NOW!!!
SO, YOU'RE DOING WELL?
AAAH, YES. I SOMEHOW MANAGED TO FIND A JOB.
I GOT MARRIED 2 YEARS AGO, AND I HAVE A KID NOW, TOO.
MARRIAGE!? KID!?
I UNDER-ESTIMATED HIM.
I SEE. HOW WONDERFUL. I WANT TO SEND YOU MY CONGRATULATIONS.
WHERE CAN I REACH YOU?
AAAH... SO...
YOU CAN CONTACT ME HERE.
03-5395-3803
I'LL KILL HIM!!
I'LL BEAT HIM TO DEATH!!!
Seey-
HIS WIFE AND CHILD WILL BE LEFT DESTITUTE!! SERVES HIM RIGHT!! FEELS GOOD JUST THINKING ABOUT IT!!

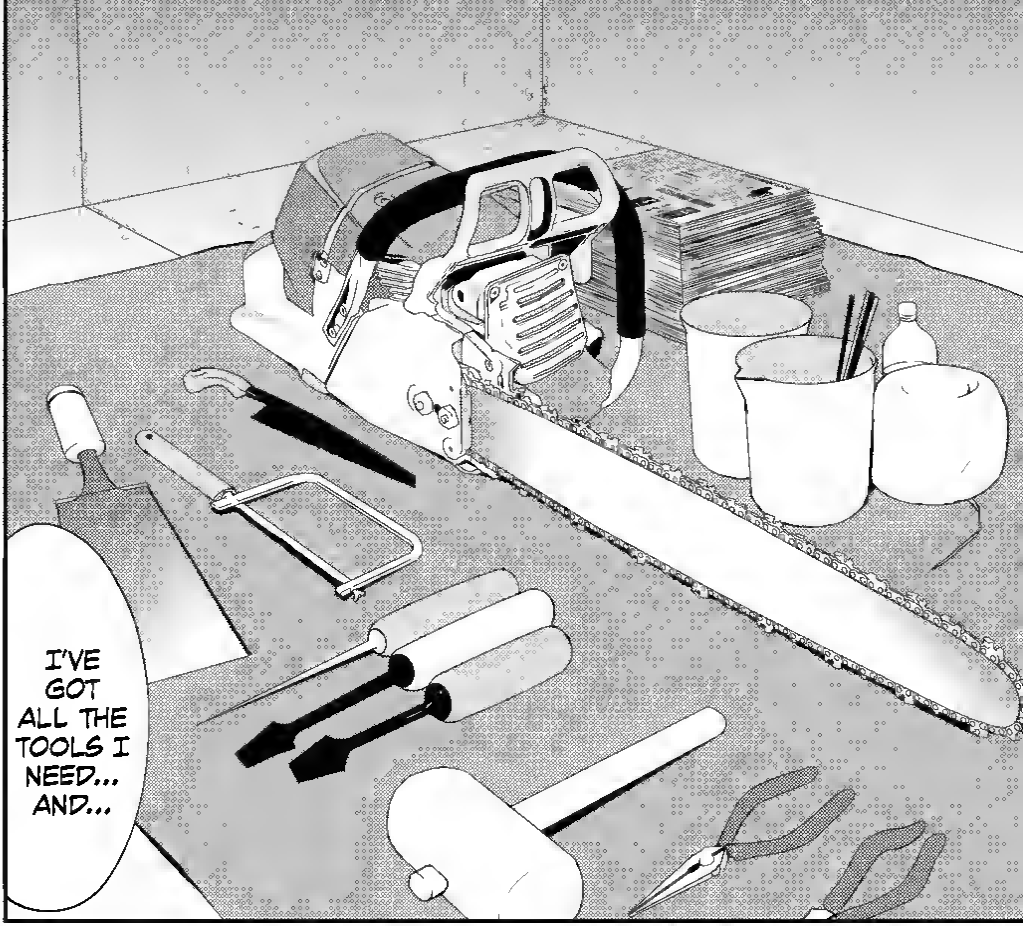
!?
THAT'S HIM, ISN'T IT. THE PERSON YOU WANTED TO MEET.
!!!INDEED...
creep
ONCE THE PALM'S DESTINY IS CARRIED OUT, I CAN SEE ALL YOUR SUBSEQUENT ACTIONS.
YOU CAN'T UNDERESTIMATE HAMMURABI DIVINATION.
WHY ARE YOU HERE!?
THE FORTUNE TELLER FROM BEFORE!!
I HAVEN'T MET HIM AT THE RIGHT TIME YET.
NOT YET...
QUIET!
Yes, please pay up
IF YOU SAFELY MET THE PERSON YOU WANTED TO, I'D GET A MILLION YEN, RIGHT?
ONE MORE TIME.
I HAVE TO MEET HIM...


I GOT A NOTE WITH HIS CONTACT INFO...
03-5395-3803
BUT FOR SOME REASON, I DON'T THINK IT'S THE RIGHT NUMBER.

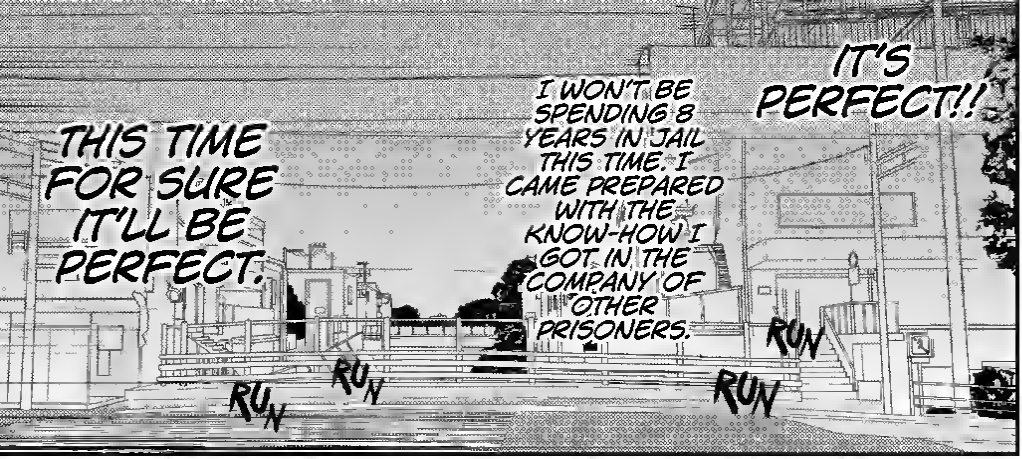

IF YOU WANT...
I'LL DRAW ANOTHER FATE LINE SO YOU CAN MEET HIM AGAIN.
REALLY?!

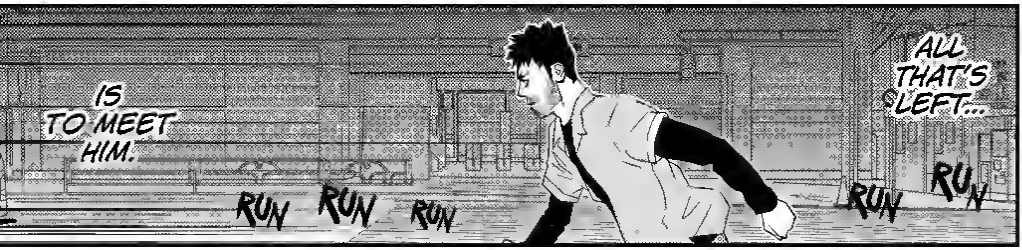

PLEASE COME HERE AT MIDNIGHT TOMORROW.
YOU'LL DEFINITELY MEET THE PERSON YOU NEED TO MEET.
BF2
THANKS!!
I'LL PAY YOU THE MILLION YEN NEXT TIME, FOR SURE!

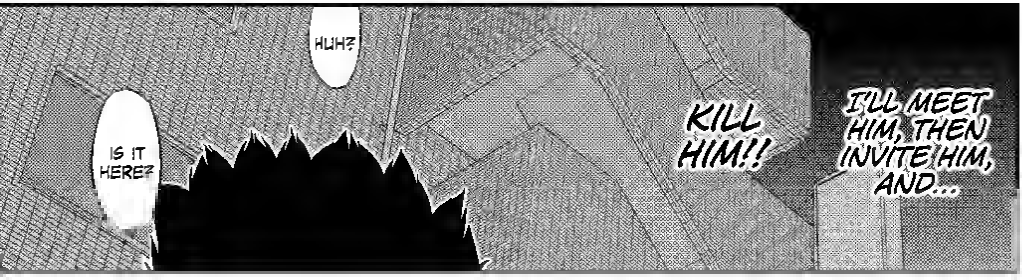

THAT FORTUNE TELLER GIVES ME A CREEPY VIBE.
GUESS I'LL HAVE TO KILL HIM, TOO...


I'VE GOT ALL THE TOOLS I NEED... AND...

I'M IN THE MOOD TO REPEATEDLY STAB HIM TO DEATH, BUT...
IF I DO THAT, IT WILL LEAVE EVIDENCE BEHIND.
THIS IS HOW MY PLAN WILL GO.
① I'LL INVITE HIM TO GO WITH ME BY CAR TO AN ABANDONED HOME IN THE HEART OF THE MOUNTAINS.
② ONCE THERE, UNDER THE GUISE OF A HAVING A FEW DRINKS, I'LL SLIP HIM A DRUG TO PUT HIM TO SLEEP. ONCE HE CAN'T FIGHT THE DROWSINESS ANYMORE, I'LL STRANGLE HIM.
③ THEN I'LL CAREFULLY DRAIN THE BODY OF ALL BLOOD, CUT HIM UP AND BURY HIM IN THE MOUNTAINS.


THIS TIME FOR SURE IT'LL BE PERFECT.
I WON'T BE SPENDING 8 YEARS IN JAIL THIS TIME. I CAME PREPARED WITH THE KNOW-HOW I GOT IN THE COMPANY OF OTHER PRISONERS.
IT'S PERFECT!!
RUN
RUN
RUN
RUN


IS TO MEET HIM.
ALL THAT'S LEFT...
RUN
RUN
RUN
RUN
RUN

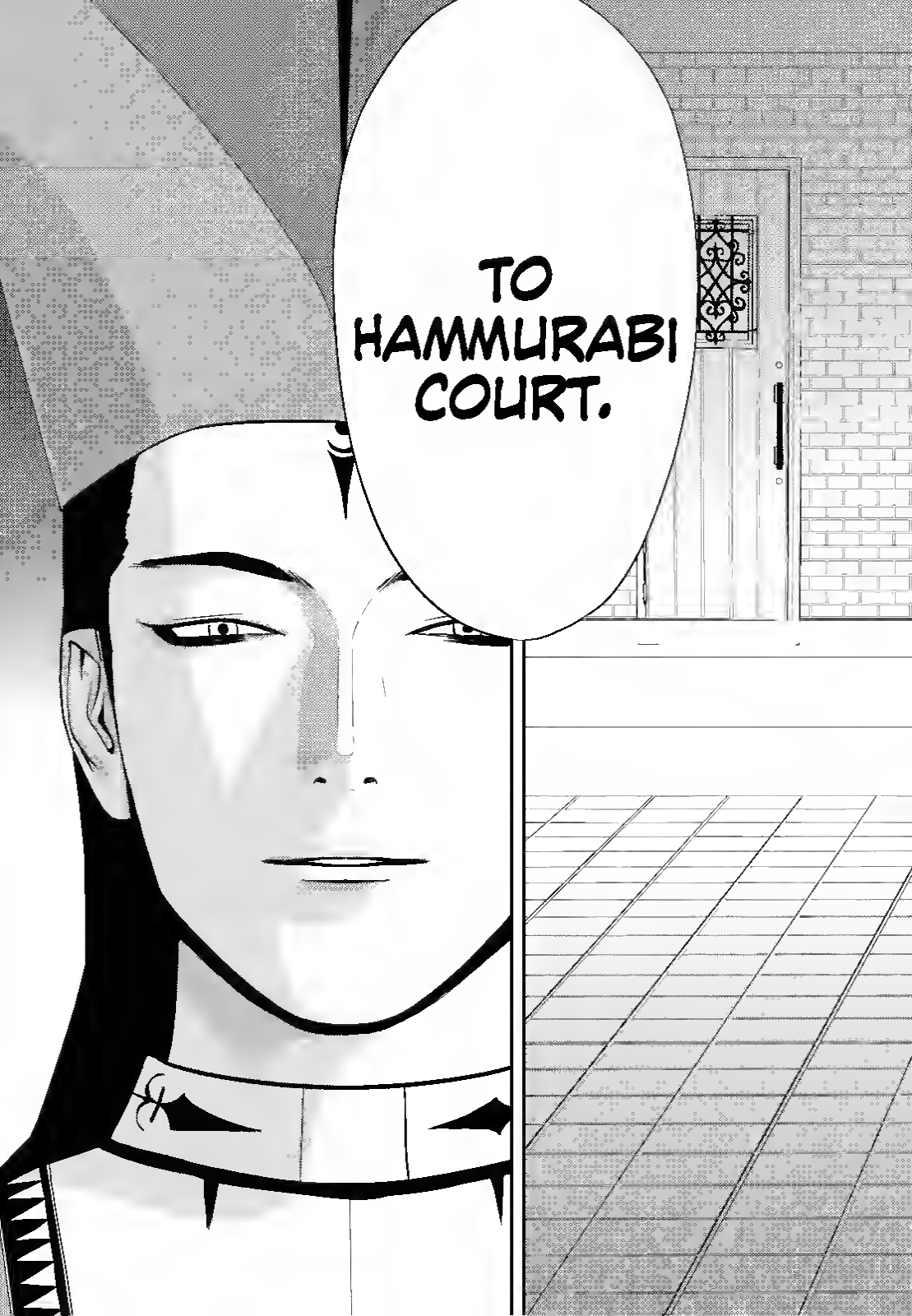

HUH?
IS IT HERE?
KILL HIM!!
I'LL MEET HIM, THEN INVITE HIM, AND...

!?

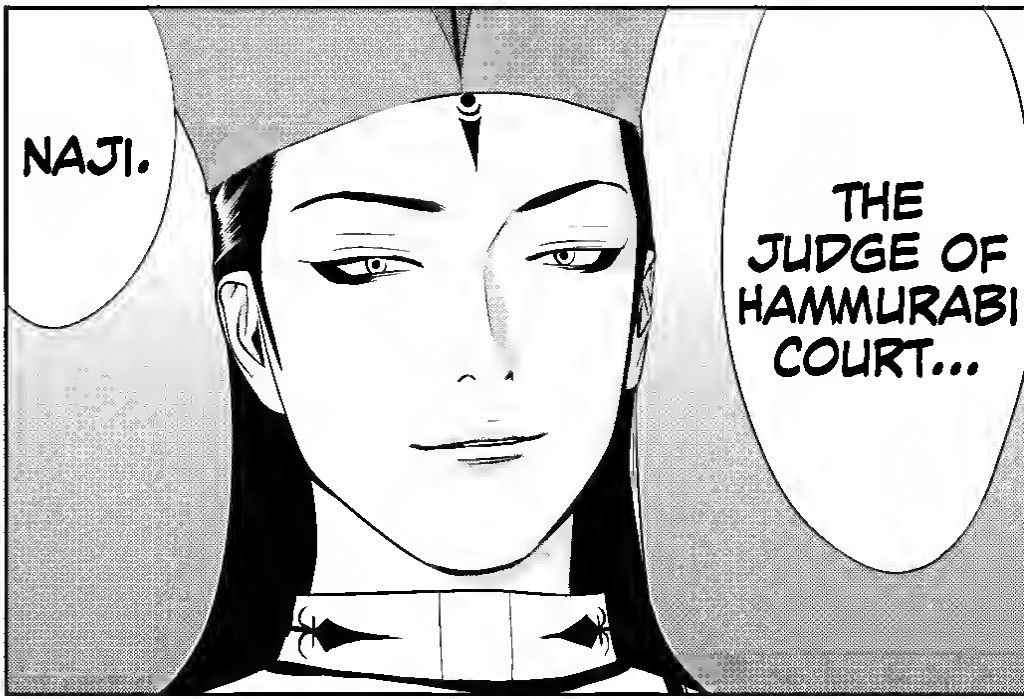
AT LAST, I'LL MEET HIM!
AND KILL HIM?

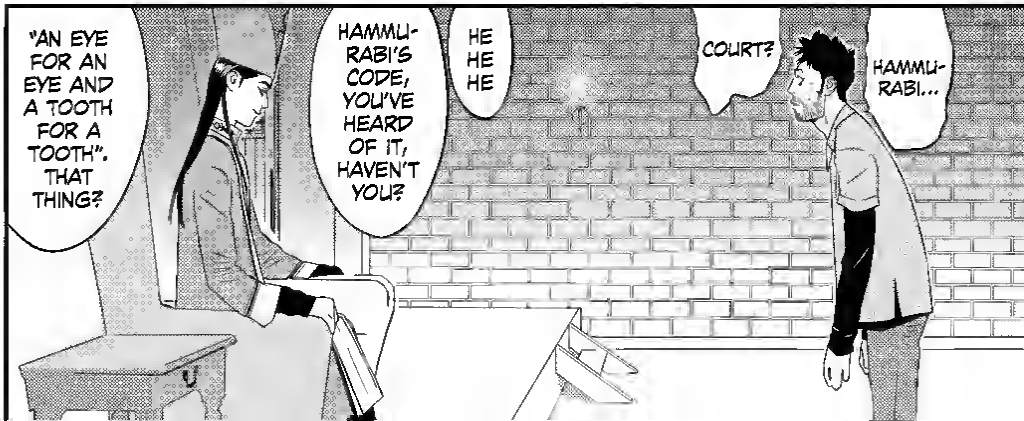
IT'S THE BASEMENT OF THIS BUILDING...
RIGHT?

WEL-
COME...


TO HAMMURABI COURT.

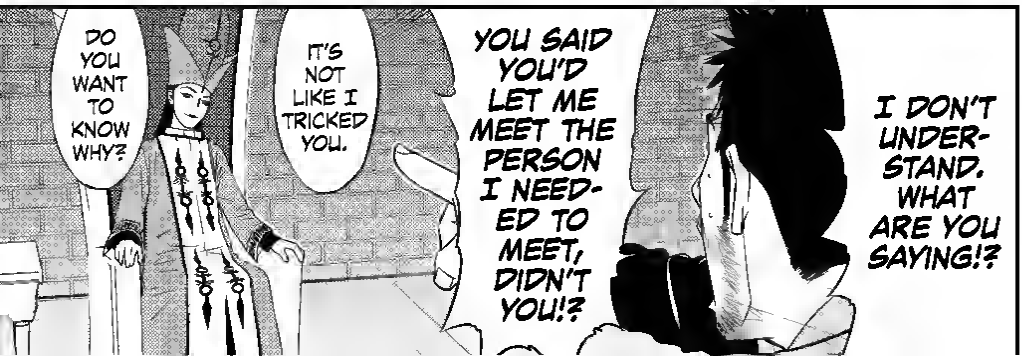
THE FORTUNE TELLER IS JUST A DISGUISE, MY REAL IDENTITY IS...
HE HE HE
FORTUNE TELLER!!
...IS THAT... YOU...


NAJI.
THE JUDGE OF HAMMURABI COURT...


"AN EYE FOR AN EYE AND A TOOTH FOR A TOOTH". THAT THING?
HAMMU-RABI'S CODE, YOU'VE HEARD OF IT, HAVEN'T YOU?
HE HE HE
COURT?
HAMMU-RABI...

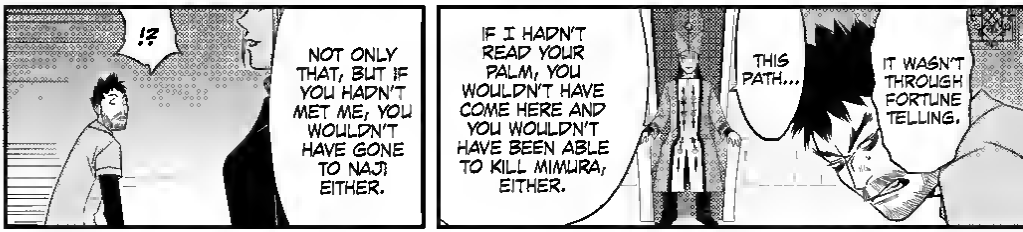
THIS HAMMURABI COURT IS BASED ON HAMMURABI'S CODE.
IT IS A PLACE TO JUDGE EVIL PEOPLE.

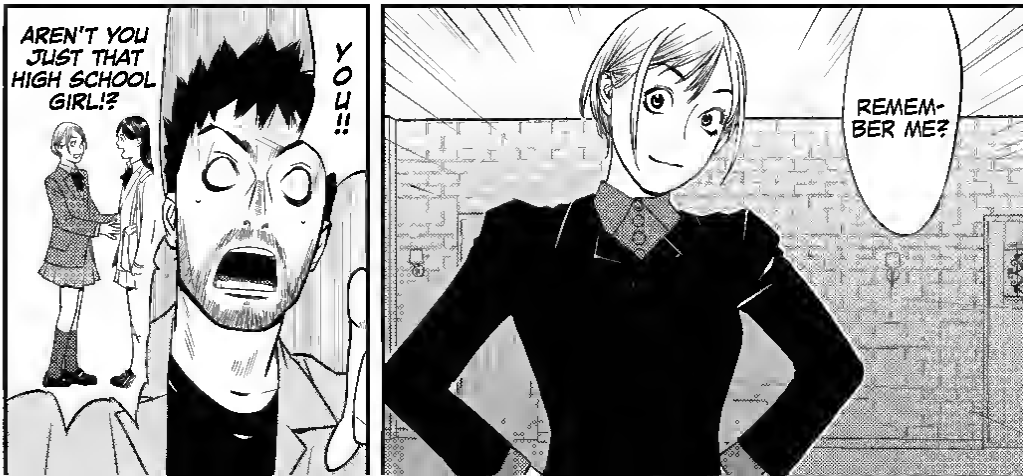
FOR SCUM LIKE YOU, THE MODERN JUDICIAL SYSTEM IS TOO LENIENT.
.....
ONLY A SEVERE JUDGMENT IN THE SPIRIT OF "AN EYE FOR AN EYE" IS SUITABLE.

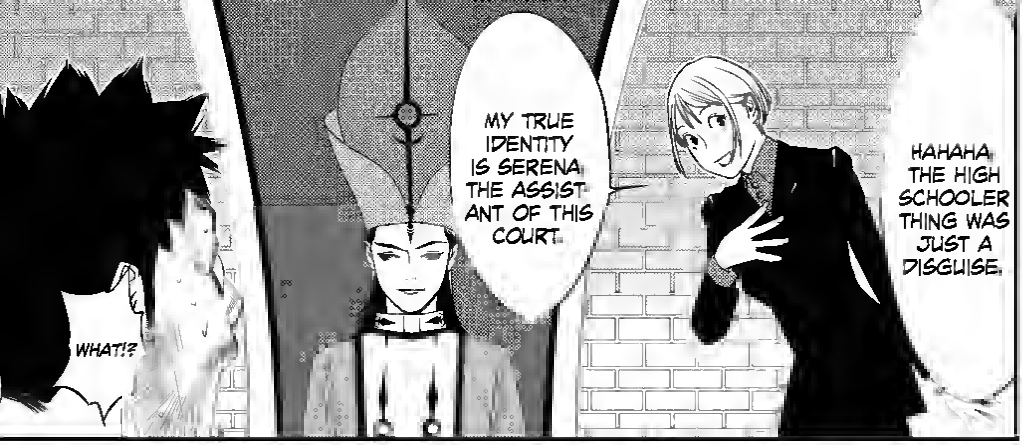

I DON'T UNDER-STAND. WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
YOU SAID YOU'D LET ME MEET THE PERSON I NEED-ED TO MEET, DIDN'T YOU!?
IT'S NOT LIKE I TRICKED YOU.
DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHY?

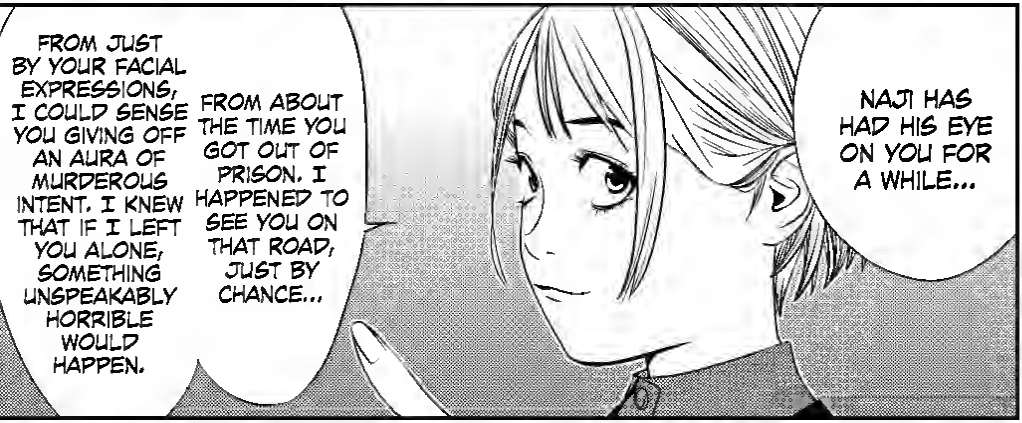
MEN BRIMMING WITH MURDEROUS INTENT LIKE YOU DON'T NEED TO MEET A MIMURA...
YOU MEET ME... BECAUSE I'M JUDGE NAJI.

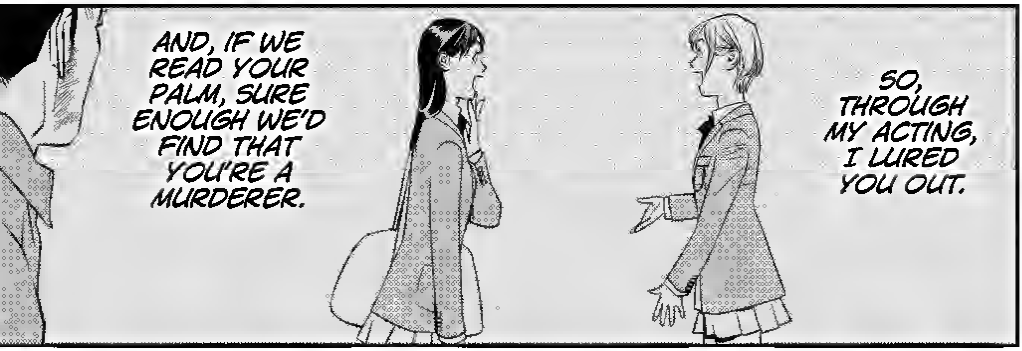
...INCRE-DIBLE.
JUST BY LOOKING AT MY PALMS...
YOU COULD EASILY TELL THAT I WAS PLANNING ON KILLING MIMURA.


IT WASN'T THROUGH FORTUNE TELLING.
THIS PATH...
IF I HADN'T READ YOUR PALM, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE COME HERE AND YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO KILL MIMURA, EITHER.
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT IF YOU HADN'T MET ME, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE GONE TO NAJI EITHER.
!?


REMEM-BER ME?
YOU!!
AREN'T YOU JUST THAT HIGH SCHOOL GIRL!?


HAHAHA. THE HIGH SCHOOLER THING WAS JUST A DISGUISE.
MY TRUE IDENTITY IS SERENA, THE ASSISTANT OF THIS COURT.
WHAT!?


NAJI HAS HAD HIS EYE ON YOU FOR A WHILE...
FROM ABOUT THE TIME YOU GOT OUT OF PRISON. I HAPPENED TO SEE YOU ON THAT ROAD, JUST BY CHANCE...
FROM JUST BY YOUR FACIAL EXPRESSIONS, I COULD SENSE YOU GIVING OFF AN AURA OF MURDEROUS INTENT. I KNEW THAT IF I LEFT YOU ALONE, SOMETHING UNSPEAKABLY HORRIBLE WOULD HAPPEN.


SO, THROUGH MY ACTING, I LURED YOU OUT.
AND, IF WE READ YOUR PALM, SURE ENOUGH WE'D FIND THAT YOU'RE A MURDERER.

.....
MY BELIEF IS...
THAT YOU COMING TO ME WAS NOT BAD LUCK, BUT AN INEVITABILITY.
I COULD HAVE READ ANYONE'S PALM, IT JUST HAPPENED TO BE THAT I WAS PLANNING ON READING YOURS.

AREN'T I?
TERRIBLY PERSIS-TENT...
.....
.....
?!
SCREW THIS!! THIS MAKE-BELIEVE TRIAL IS A WASTE OF MY TIME!!
I'M LEAVING!!
JUMP

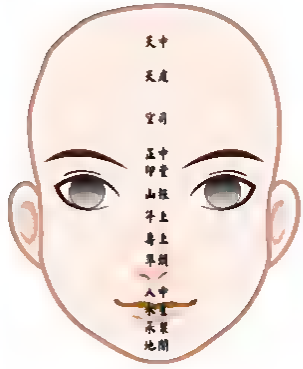
WHAT... MY LEGS... MY LEGS...
THEY AREN'T MOV-ING...
TREMBLE
TREMBLE TREMBLE TREMBLE
TREMBLE TREMBLE TREMBLE TREMBLE
HA HA HA
YOU CAN'T ESCAPE FROM THIS COURT-ROOM.
THE REASON BEING THE DESTINY LINE WRITTEN ON YOUR HAND... DOESN'T SAY "BE ABLE TO MEET MI-MURA".
IT SAYS "I MUST OBEY NAJI".
?!

WHAT JUDGMENT WILL HASEGAWA RECEIVE? FIND OUT, NEXT ISSUE.

"Hammurabi Court" continues.

SOME NOTES:

HE TOLD FORTUNES LIKE THE ONES A REGULAR FORTUNE TELLER READS, BUT JUST LIKE HE WAS AIMING FOR IT, MY FATE CHANGED!
BUT THIS FORTUNE TELLER DOES THE OPPOSITE...



On page 9, there's a bunch of writings on a guy's face. These writings are related to ancient Chinese physiognomy. The basic idea is that the shape, size, color and condition of these parts would represent aspects of a person's life e.g. career, relationship, luck, longevity, etc. The writings on the face don't really have actual English equivalents and hence were left as is.

The following are the literal translations, in case anyone is interested/bothered they're not translated:

天中 Tian Zhong (lit. Realm of Heaven)
天庭 Tian Ting (lit. Heaven's Courts)
司空 Si Kong (official title in Ancient China)
中正 Zhong Zheng (lit. Center True)
印堂 Yin Tang (lit. Hall of Impressions)
山根 Shan Gen (lit. Mountain Roots)
年上 Nian Shang (lit. Age Above)
寿上 Shou Shang (lit. Longevity Above)
人中 Ren Zhong (lit. Realm of Mortals)
承漿 Cheng Jiang (lit. Recieve Fluids)
地閣 Di Ge (lit. Court of the Underworld)
保寿 Bao Shou (lit. Protection of Longevity)
臥蛋 Wo Dan (lit. Resting Egg)
觀骨 Guan Gu (lit. Observation Bone)

Huge thanks to **Frostcalibur** for this info.